

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A method for production of a locally limited diffusion layer on a metal component by alitination, siliconization and/or chromation, comprising the steps of:

applying a paste containing Cr, Si and/or Al, and containing an activator, to an area of the metal component to be coated;

solidifying the paste to form a donor pack on the area of the metal component to be coated;

placing the area of the metal component to be coated and a region of the component which is not to be coated in a packed bed reactor;

covering of [[a]] the region of the metal component[[,]] which is not to be coated and which is adjacent to the donor pack[[,]] in the packed bed reactor with a diffusion-blocking powder pack in the packed bed reactor; and

heating to a temperature above 900°C in order to carry out the alitination, siliconization and/or chromation in the packed bed reactor.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 9, wherein the metal component is covered before the step of applying the paste, at least in the area to be coated, with a porous separating layer containing Al₂O₃.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 9, wherein the diffusion-blocking powder pack contains a metal powder having a similar or a same composition as the metal component to be coated.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 9, wherein the diffusion-blocking powder pack consists of Ni or of a Ni alloy.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 9, wherein the diffusion-blocking powder pack contains an activator.
14. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 9, wherein the diffusion-blocking powder pack, the paste and/or the donor pack contains an activator in an amount of 0.2 to 5 wt.%.
15. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 9, wherein the activator is NH_4F , NH_4Cl and/or AlF_3 .
16. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 9, wherein the metal component is a component of a turbine rotor.